Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for adjusting a ~~clock throttle rate~~ speed of a central processing unit (CPU), comprising:

measuring a usage of the CPU;

comparing the measured CPU usage with a predetermined reference CPU usage range; and

adjusting the ~~clock throttle rate~~ speed of the CPU responsive to the comparison.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined reference CPU usage range can be set either with or without a user's input.

3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein if the measured CPU usage is less than a minimum reference CPU usage of the predetermined reference CPU usage range, then the adjustment of the CPU ~~clock throttle rate~~ speed comprises reducing the CPU ~~clock throttle rate~~ speed in a stepwise fashion.

4. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 3, wherein the reduction of the CPU ~~throttle rate~~ speed comprises adjusting the ~~clock throttle rate~~ speed to a next ~~higher value and repeating the process until the measured CPU usage is not less than the minimum reference usage~~ lower speed.

5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein if the measured CPU usage is between minimum and maximum reference CPU usages of the predetermined reference CPU usage range, then the adjustment of the CPU ~~clock throttle rate~~ speed is carried out by maintaining the CPU clock throttle rate.

6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein if the measured CPU usage is more than a maximum reference CPU usage of the predetermined reference CPU usage range, then the adjustment of the CPU ~~clock throttle rate~~ speed is carried out by ~~initializing~~ recovering the CPU ~~clock throttle rate~~ speed.

7. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the CPU usage is measured by detecting registry information of a computer system.

8. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the CPU usage is measured by calculating an idle thread value of the CPU for a predetermined period of time.

9. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the measuring, comparing and adjusting steps are repeated in order at predetermined intervals of time.

10. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined reference CPU usage range is set by an individual user of the CPU.

11. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the predetermined reference CPU usage range is preset.

12. (Currently Amended) A computer, comprising:

user interface means for enabling ~~clock throttle rate~~ speed adjustment based on CPU usage;

power management means for controlling a CPU's ~~clock throttle rate~~ speed; and

device driver means for reading CPU usage and controlling said power management means, wherein the device driver means comprises:

a first circuit that measures a usage of the CPU,

a second circuit that compares the measured CPU usage with a predetermined CPU usage range, and

a third circuit that adjusts the speed of the CPU responsive to the comparison.

13. (Currently Amended) The computer according to claim 12, wherein the power management means automatically controls a register in a CPU to adjust the ~~clock rate~~ speed of the CPU.

14. (Original) The computer according to claim 12, wherein the device driver means comprises a ring-3 layer, a ring-0 layer and a hardware layer.

15. (Currently Amended) A stored program for machine implemented adjustment of a ~~clock throttle rate~~ speed of a central processing unit (CPU), comprising:

a first routine that measures a usage of the CPU;

a second routine for comparing the measured CPU usage with a predetermined CPU usage range; and

a third routine for adjusting the ~~clock throttle rate~~ speed of the CPU, wherein the third routine comprises:

a first subroutine for reducing the speed if the measured CPU usage is less than a minimum reference CPU usage of the predetermined CPU range,

a second subroutine for maintaining the speed if the measured CPU usage is within the predetermined CPU usage range, and

a third subroutine for recovering the speed if the measured CPU usage is more than a maximum reference CPU usage of the predetermined reference CPU usage range.

16. Canceled

17. (Original) The stored program according to claim 15, further comprising a fourth routine to repeat the first to third routines at predetermined intervals of time.

18. (Original) The stored program according to claim 15, wherein the first routine comprises detecting registry information of a computer system or calculating an idle thread value of the CPU for a predetermined period of time.

19. (New) The stored program according to claim 15, wherein the third subroutine initializes the clock speed.

20. (New) The stored program according to claim 15, wherein the predetermined reference CPU usage range is set by an individual user of the CPU.

21. (New) The computer according to claim 12, wherein the third circuit comprises:

a first unit that reduces the speed if the measured CPU usage is less than a minimum reference CPU usage of the predetermined CPU range;

a second unit that maintains the speed if the measured CPU usage is within the predetermined CPU usage range; and

a third unit that recovers the speed if the measured CPU usage is more than a maximum reference CPU usage of the predetermined reference CPU usage range.

22. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein if the measured CPU usage is less than a minimum reference CPU usage of the predetermined reference CPU usage range, then the adjustment of the CPU speed comprises reducing the CPU speed in a stepwise fashion, wherein the reduction of the CPU speed comprises adjusting the speed to a next lower speed, and wherein if the measured CPU usage is between minimum and maximum reference CPU usages of the predetermined reference CPU usage range, then the adjustment of the CPU speed is carried out by maintaining the CPU clock throttle rate.

23. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein if the measured CPU usage is more than a maximum reference CPU usage of the predetermined reference CPU usage range, then the adjustment of the CPU speed is carried out by recovering the CPU speed.

24. (New) A method for adjusting a speed of a central processing unit (CPU), comprising:

measuring a usage of the CPU;

comparing the measured CPU usage with a predetermined reference CPU usage range; and

adjusting the speed of the CPU in accordance with the comparing, wherein if the measured CPU usage is between lower and upper reference CPU usages of the predetermined reference CPU usage range, then the adjustment of the CPU speed is carried out by maintaining the CPU clock throttle rate.

25. (New) A method for controlling a performance state of a central processing unit (CPU), comprising:

measuring a usage of the CPU;

comparing the measured CPU usage with a predetermined reference CPU usage range; and

determining the performance state of the CPU responsive to the comparison, wherein if the measured CPU usage is less than a minimum reference CPU usage of the predetermined reference CPU usage range , then the determination of the CPU performance state includes changing the CPU performance state.

26. (New) The method according to claim 25, wherein the predetermined reference CPU usage range can be set either with or without a user's input.

27. (New) The method according to claim 25, wherein the determination of the CPU performance state comprises changing the performance state to a next lower performance state in a stepwise fashion.

28. (New) The method according to claim 25, wherein if the measured CPU usage is between minimum and maximum reference CPU usages of the predetermined reference CPU usage range, then the determination of the CPU performance state is carried out by maintaining the CPU performance.

29. (New) The method according to claim 25, wherein if the measured CPU usage is more than a maximum reference CPU usage of the predetermined reference CPU usage range, then the determination of the CPU performance state is carried out by initializing the CPU performance state for recovering high performance state.

30. (New) The method according to claim 25, wherein the CPU usage is measured by detecting registry information of a computer system.

31. (New) The method according to claim 25, wherein the CPU usage is measured by calculating an idle thread value of the CPU for a predetermined period of time.

32. (New) The method according to claim 25, wherein the measuring, comparing and determining steps are repeated in order at predetermined intervals of time.

33. (New) The method according to claim 25, wherein the predetermined reference CPU usage range is set by an individual user of the CPU.

34. (New) The method according to claim 25, wherein the predetermined reference CPU usage range is preset.